

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 LAB-06 SIL-01 EB-11 COME-00

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01

CU-05 /141 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1379

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DEPT PASS AIFLD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PN, ELAB

SUBJ: CHRISTIAN LABOR LEADER PROPOSES JOINT ACTION

AGAINST COMMUNISTS

SUMMARY: THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CHRISTIAN CIT LABOR CONFEDERATION HAS MADE AN UNPRECEDENTED PROPOSAL THAT THE AIFLD-SUPPORTED CTRP LABOR CONFEDERATION AND AN INDEPENDENT REPRESENTATIVE JOIN HIM TO INTERCEDE WITH THE GOP OVER MARXIST PENETRATION OF THE LABOR MINISTRY'S PROGRAMS. CIT AND CTRP LEADERS ALLEGE THAT NEW GOP INSTITUTE OF LABOR STUDIES IS DOMINATED BY MARXISTS. END SUMMARY

1. THE AIFLD COUNTRY PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORTS THAT JULIO CESAR PINZON, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CHRISTIAN CENTRAL ISTMENA DE TRABAJADORES (CIT), SUGGESTED TO DEAN BUTCHER, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE FREE LABOR CONFEDERACION DE TRABAJADORES DE LA REPUBLICA DE PANAMA (CTRP), ON JULY 30 THAT THEY ACT TOGETHER TO COMBAT MARXIST INFLUENCE IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT. THE MINISTRY OF LABOR HAS IN PAST FEW WEEKS BEGUN OPERATION OF ITS OWN EDUCATION INSTITUTE (INSTITUTO DE ESTUDIOS LABORALES - IES). BUTCHER AND

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PINZON ALLEGE THE IES IS DOMINATED BY MEMBERS OF THE

COMMUNIST-CONTROLLED CENTRAL NACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES  
PANAMENOS (CNP). PINZON PROPOSED AND BUTCHER ACCEPTED  
A PLAN TO ASK LT. COL. MANUEL ANTONIO MORIEGA, THE CHIEF  
OF THE NATIONAL GUARD'S G-2 INTELLIGENCE ARM, TO  
CORRECT THIS FAVORITISM.

2. PINZON AND BUTCHER WILL TRAVE AUGUST 9 TO CHIRIQUI  
PROVINCE TO REQUEST EDUARDO VALDES, SECRETARY GENERAL OF  
AN IMPORTANT INDEPENDENT CHIRIQUI LABOR FEDERATION, TO  
JOIN THEM IN THEIR APPROACH TO NORIEGA. (PINZON, BUTCHER  
AND VALDES, TOGETHER WITH DOMINGO BARRIA OF THE CNP,  
CONSTITUTE THE GOVERNING BOARD OF PANAMA'S NATIONAL LABOR  
COUNCIL - CONATO.) THE TRIO WILL ASK NORIEGA TO CAUSE IES  
TO SUSPEND OPERATIONS PENDING A COMPLETE REORGANIZATION  
NEXT YEAR WHICH WOULD GIVE NON-COMMUNIST LEADERS A DOMINANT  
ROLE IN THE INSTITUTE.

3. COMMENT: PINZON AND BUTCHER ARE NOT APPROACHING  
LABOR MINISTER ROLANDO MURGAS DIRECTLY BECAUSE THEY  
CONSIDER HIM TO BE BIASED IN FAVOR OF CNP LEADERSHIP.  
WE HAVE PRVIOUSLY HEARD COMPLAINTS FROM LABOR SOURCES  
CONCERNING MURGAS' FAVORITISM TOWARD THE CNP. THIS IS  
FIRST TIME THAT CIT AND CTRP LEADERS HAVE JOINED FORCES  
TO COMBAT CNP. IF VALDES JOINS THEM IN APPROACH  
TO NORIEGA, THEY HAVE FAIR CHANCE OF GETTING POSITIVE  
RESULTS. TORRIJOS' TOLERANCE OF COMMUNISTS IS DESIGNED  
TO KEEP LEFT FROM ATTACKING GOP, BUT HE ALSO WISHES  
AVOID TROUBLE FROM OTHER SECTORS AND RESPONDS TO PRESSURE.  
FACT THAT LEADERS OF TWO MAJOR LABOR CONFEDERATIONS,  
PLUS LEADER OF SIGNIFICANT INDEPENDENT FEDERATION,  
STRONGLY OBJECT TO MEMBERSHIP OF INSTITUTE OF LABOR  
STUDIES WILL BE DIFFICULT TO IGNORE.  
JORDEN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED AIFLD.

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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** CHRISTIAN LABOR LEADER PROPOSES JOINT ACTION AGAINST COMMUNISTS  
**TAGS:** ELAB, PN, CIT, CTRP  
**To:** STATE  
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